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JAN 27 2014

January 20, 2014

FCC Mail Room

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW,  
Washington, D.C. 20554

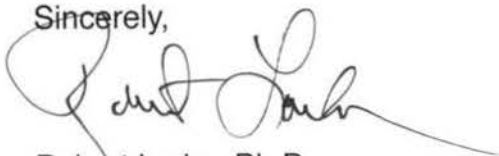
Attention: Hearings on Cell Phones/Airlines.

Dear Commissioners:

Since I am unable to attend the hearings in person, I have enclosed a letter sent to AA Customer Relations (12/14/2013) with my concerns about the pending problems over permitting the use of cell phones on airline flights. The letter is self-explanatory and I am sure a reflection of the majority of those of us who fly, both frequently and casually. Feel free to use it in any manner.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Robert Larka, Ph.D.  
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Fresno, CA 93711

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December 14, 2013

Received & Inspected

JAN 27 2014

American Airlines Customer Relations  
P.O. Box 619612 MD 2400  
DFW Airport, TX 75261-9612

FCC Mail Room

Dear Sirs:

Congratulations on the merger and positive thoughts towards the new venture.

However, I am sure this letter will be among thousands of others that will be coming your way expressing concerns over the proposal to allow cell phone use while in flight. We, along with many friends we have made among American flight and ground staff, already see problems ahead if this plan is implemented. Several of our relatives (employed by AA of course in various positions) tell us about the "normal" problems encountered by every airline in a 24 hour period. Added to the noise that is present on most flights, the addition of constant cell phones in use by a limited "elite few" who feel they must "keep in contact with the world," may likely create hostile environments and unsafe situations for everyone on board. The major question here is fairness to other consumers and not just the cell phone users. The Wall Street Journal (12/13/2013) quotes FCC Chairman Thomas Wheeler, "I do not want the person in the seat next to me yapping at 35,000 feet any more than anyone else. But we are not the Federal Courtesy Commission. Our mandate from Congress is to oversee how networks function." Maybe Mr. Wheeler will be present when other passengers resort to the foul language he and his fellow Comms. are guarding the TV viewing public from. The excuse about receiving "emergency calls during flights" is a Straw Man that is already handled by members of the flight crew, and being late for a wedding, etc. is ho-hum for the rest of us. And a special section in the cabin for making calls proposed by Jet Blue leads to the logical question of WHERE? Next to the already crowded lavatory areas? The crew section for preparing meals, etc.? The last row in the economy section?

We are already booked for our flight next year for our 50th Wedding Anniversary in Paris; we hope it will not be spoiled by some wanna-be TV host auditioning for his friends at 3:00 AM. He just might end up with a built-in cell phone and it won't be a new model blue tooth!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Lauer", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.